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Field Investigation Laboratory
NEBRASKA
FEB 5 1913

1913

The CRETE Nurseries

CRETE, NEBRASKA

ESTABLISHED 1872



Trees of Quality and Character

PERSONAL

IN PRESENTING THIS, OUR FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL CATALOG, we wish to thank our thousands of customers for their continued patronage and to again call their attention to those factors that have contributed toward making our business a success. It has been our constant aim to supply our customers with the highest class of goods at a fair price. We have no desire to sell a cheap grade of stock which is so often advertised at seemingly cheap rates. In our own plantings we have clearly demonstrated to our own satisfaction that the best grade of stock is the only kind to plant, and we annually consign to the brush pile inferior stock which could be sold at a low rate but which we refuse to sell at any price. We are in the business to make money but we absolutely refuse to do business where we cannot honestly feel that the customer will receive a lasting benefit such as he deserves from the money he expends. We prosper personally as we minister to the well-being of others.

GUARANTEE

WE GUARANTEE ABSOLUTE SATISFACTION

IF THE goods we send you do not arrive in the best of order and to be of the highest grade as represented, simply return any unsatisfactory purchase within three days after you receive it, in the same manner in which it was received, and we will return to you the full amount that you paid for the stock together with the cost of transportation both ways.

J. A. LOTHROP,

General Manager The Crete Nurseries



THE Crete Nurseries were established in 1872, at a time when the business of growing trees, shrubs and plants commercially was in its infancy. With the wonderful growth of the United States in population and wealth, there has developed an unlimited demand for Nursery products. It has been our constant aim to keep pace with the progress of the country.

Our orchards have expanded from the original eighty acres growing on the old two hundred and forty acre farm by the addition of fifty thousand additional trees in branch partnership orchards, extending from the eastern portion of Nebraska out through Central Nebraska and up to within one mile of the Wyoming line.

Without taking into account the fruit sold from these partnership branch orchards in which we have a half interest for a term of years, the home sales of fruit in 1909 was \$11,000. We may mention 39 bushels gathered from one tree, the product from this single tree selling for more than \$25.

This crop has been developed not as an accidental yield, but by first planting good trees and suitable varieties; second, persistent annual cultivation; third, by the use of power spraying machinery for twenty years, with free use of stable manure, straw mulching of the row and annual pruning.

THE BUSINESS GREW.

Our first large contract was the planting of seven hundred and fifty thousand trees for the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad.

During the operation of the timber claim law we raised and sold thirteen and one-half millions of forest trees in one season; a number sufficiently to plant fifty rows of shade trees, eighty feet apart in the row across the State of Nebraska.

OLDEST NURSERY BUSINESS IN NEBRASKA.

Years went by and the other firms which had been in business when we began, discontinued or moved away. We have the **oldest nursery business** in the state.

THE FRUIT BELT IS CONSTANTLY MOVING WESTWARD.

Healthy young orchards in Western Nebraska are producing fruit that is an inspiration. The branch orchard of David Hunter, at Sutherland, Nebraska, three hundred and eighteen miles west of Omaha, planted with Crete Nurseries trees, has yielded nine crops of cherries and plums, and eight crops of peaches. In 1910 this orchard raised ten thousand bushels of apples; in 1911 fifty-four hundred bushels, and in 1912 nine thousand bushels of apples, four hundred bushels of plums and two hundred bushels of cherries.

This orchard is known for 200 miles up and down the Platte as the most successful orchard in the district.

The Ed Scriven orchard in Scotts Bluff County, twenty miles from the Wyoming line, supplied by Crete Nurseries, has borne fruit each season since the trees were four years old. This orchard rarely fails to give an abundant supply of fruit for family use and a surplus for sale.

From the four-year-old orchard of G. A. Royce, one mile from the Wyoming line, \$267.00 worth of plums were sold in the season of 1909.



STOCK GUARANTEED TO REACH YOU IN PERFECT CONDITION.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

THE THREE ESSENTIALS.

Not from theory, but from actual fruiting of our trees in all parts of Nebraska, some of them under the most adverse conditions, we have come to believe that any man can raise fruit if he begins with—

1st—Carefully Grown Trees.

2nd—Hardy Varieties Adapted to His Locality, and follows with—

3rd—Good Care. Taking these points in inverse order.

DON'T ORDER FROM US

unless you intend to give your trees good care. Neglect kills more trees than any other cause. The results disappoint you, and do not increase our trade. Frankly, we do not seek the trade of the careless planter.

Is there a more pitiful sight than a tree dying for lack of care? Every tree, bush and shrub in this catalog is the result of thoughtful study and careful culture. We have done our part and urge you to do yours.

A PRACTICAL SCHOOL OF HORTICULTURE.

Twenty-one years ago we engaged in planting timber claims on four-year warranted contracts. We assumed all the expense, risk and care incident to growing the trees, and enabled our patrons to secure patents to the land. We had 2,500 acres under cultivation at one time. We also planted contract orchards for farmers, doing all the work for three years.

The experience we gained was invaluable. We thoroughly learned Nebraska's peculiar requirements in every locality from east to west and from north to south. We are now engaged in planting large contract branch commercial orchards; many of them containing thousands of trees. They extend in thirteen divisions from the Missouri River to the Wyoming line, and from one mile of the corner of Cherry County down into southern Nebraska. Our success with these orchards has been wonderful. We secured exceptional stands, and the trees came into bearing with a rapidity and fruitfulness that surprised and delighted our patrons. We are growing fruit in commercial quantities in far western Nebraska, where it was formerly deemed impossible. We are succeeding abundantly where others have repeatedly failed.

Why?

HARDY VARIETIES AND CAREFUL CULTURE.

Because our long experience enables us to recommend the proper varieties adapted to each locality, and the peculiar methods of culture that insure success.

I wish we knew how to emphasize this point so it would ring in the ears of every intending planter. Some varieties will succeed in Nebraska. Others will not. And of the two lists the latter is by far the longer.

NEBRASKA IS PECULIAR.

Varieties that succeed along the Missouri River fail in the western part of the state. Some kinds that do well in southern counties are not adapted to the northern. And a long list of the old favorites in the East and South are out of the question here.

VALUABLE EXPERIENCE FREE.

Probably 90 per cent of our customers ask us to select their varieties for them, feeling that we have had invaluable experience while growing up with Nebraska in planting extensively in different localities under varying conditions. Let us work together for success.

"I am over 81 years old and have set out four orchards. I must say that the trees received from the Crete Nurseries are the finest I ever saw. They are all doing well."

E. B. WEST, Custer County.

THE GREATEST CARE TO PACK TRUE TO LABEL.



BY FORCE OF HEREDITY, OUR TREES IF FAIRLY CULTIVATED WILL YIELD ABUNDANT CROPS OF FRUIT
—SOUTHEAST ORCHARD—CRETE NURSERIES

FREQUENT SHALLOW CULTIVATION RETAINS MOISTURE.

EXTRA SELECT STOCK *of* GREATEST IMPORTANCE

NECESSARY TO READ THIS TO UNDERSTAND OUR CATALOG.

In a long nursery experience nothing has surprised us more than the idea some people have that cheap, inferior nursery stock will do to plant. The desire we all have to buy as reasonably as possible is legitimate, but to buy cheaply at the expense of quality is folly.

You plant a tree not in the hope of raising fruit tomorrow, but in years to come. You expect to cultivate, prune and care for it. The work of planting, cultivating and bringing into bearing inferior varieties is just as great as that devoted to the planting of the best and most successful.

Our older orchards have been planted thirty-seven years and they give promise of many years of continued fruitfulness.

THE BEST IS THE CHEAPEST.

In planting a large number of successful orchards and millions of forest trees on contracts, we have found that the best and strongest trees are by far the most successful and desirable.

TREE BREEDING

The cheapest way to propagate apple trees for example, is to secure scions from blocks of young nursery stock where they can be cut rapidly. These young trees, however, are like young children—their future quality and productive capacity are unknown.

THE NEWEST HORTICULTURE.

Because trees can not only transmit hereditary traits like human beings, but by careful selection we can eradicate objectionable characteristics and build up better types.

From one tree we picked thirty-nine bushels of fine apples. These trees are triumphs of horticultural skill, as Nebraska's famous steer, Challenger, was a triumph of scientific stock breeding.

The wisdom of propagating from trees of such wonderful capacity is at once apparent. Their tendency to extreme fruitfulness is transmitted to all their posterity. The same principle that makes it essential for farmers to perpetuate their best strains of stock, renders it imperative for nurserymen to propagate from their most productive trees.

We are selecting to obtain strains of each variety combining three essential and desirable characteristics—**HARDINESS, VITALITY and FRUITFULNESS.** So we move forward, ever progressing toward the ideal type.

THIS CATALOG DESCRIBES DESIRABLE VARIETIES ONLY.

Every tree, bush and shrub in this list is the best we have and worth the money.

This list has our reputation behind it. The stock is the product of forty-one years' experience; is of extra quality, well branched, heavily rooted, and **WILL GROW AND PRODUCE FRUIT.**

PREMIUMS AND MEDALS.

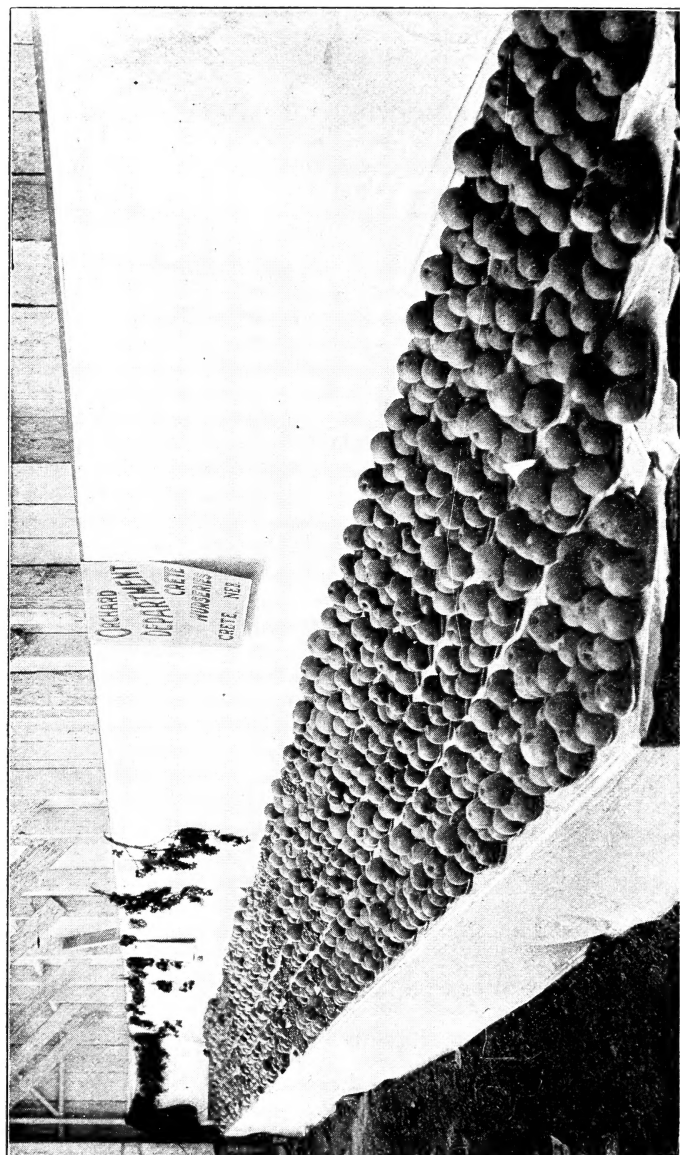
The Orchard Department of Crete Nurseries has for years won numerous premiums at the Nebraska State Fair. In 1905 we won 58 premiums; the largest number awarded to any exhibitor. In the off year of 1907 we exhibited 89 varieties and won fifty premiums.

In 1908, we won 48 first premiums, winning all of the larger premiums in the fruit class. In 1909, we won 67 premiums.

At the Columbian Exposition it was conceded that Nebraska apples had the best flavor. You are proud of the fact that Nebraska fruit ranks among

TREE BREEDING—Continued

the best in the world and we rejoice in the fact that the **CRETE NURSERIES** can help you to produce it.



CRETE NURSERIES EXHIBIT AT NEBRASKA STATE FAIR.

Our fruit won 58 premiums in 1905; the largest number awarded to any exhibitor. We exhibited eighty-nine varieties of fruit in the unfavorable year of 1907, and 130 varieties in 1908, and 184 varieties in 1909, winning 67 premiums thereon in 1909; also bronze medal at Paris Exposition in 1900; gold medal at St. Louis Exposition in 1904.

We were awarded a **BRONZE MEDAL** for fruit at the **PARIS EXPOSITION** in 1900, and a **GOLD MEDAL** at **ST. LOUIS EXPOSITION** in 1904.

STOCK GUARANTEED TO REACH YOU IN PERFECT CONDITION.

APPLE TREES—Extra Select Stock

"Odors of apples! Trees bursting with bloom!
Is there so pungent, so rare a perfume?
Essence of sunshine, of dew and of rain,
Fragrance of flowers and spice of the plain.
Here's to the apple, our tastes vindicate!
The queen of the orchard, the pride of our state."

Fort Collins.

MRS. L. G. CARPENTER.

That the apple is king of fruits is evidenced not only by its general popularity, but by its marvelous productiveness.

In the frosty year of 1908, we picked 310 bushels of apples from a little less than two-fifths of an acre.

In another orchard, we gathered 27 bushels of Grimes Golden Pippin from one tree. The Duchess of Oldenburg apple one season yielded 280 bushels of hand picked apples on one-quarter of an acre; the product selling for \$210.

Another variety gave an average yield for three years in succession at the rate of 1300 bushels per acre; this on ground receiving special care. Entire orchards have yielded for us more than 400 bushels per acre.

A GOOD RATE OF INTEREST.

In good season, the orchards will take care of themselves, therefore, we have selected one of the years known to all as one of Nebraska's unfortunate seasons. During the drouth year of 1894, from six and one-half acres, called our south central orchard, we marketed 2,500 bushels of apples. This crop sold for \$1,400, an average of \$216 per acre. Corn would require from ten to fifteen years to produce as much money from one acre of ground. This crop, \$216 from one acre, is more than 10 per cent interest on a valuation of \$2,000 per acre, thus rivaling reports from Colorado and the Pacific Coast.

***DUCHESS OF OLDENBURG**—Large; yellow with red streaks; juicy; very productive; perfectly hardy; best for cooking. August.

EARLY HARVEST—Bright straw color; flesh nearly white; very productive. July.

RED JUNE—Medium size; very red; a good keeper; fine erect grower; bears young and abundantly.

***YELLOW TRANSPARENT**—Russian; medium size; pale yellow; juicy; sub-acid. August.

BEN DAVIS—Large; handsome; brightly striped with red; a good bearer; and a good keeper. January to April.

GANO—Similar but much superior to the Ben Davis; a tree vigorous and hardy; bears while young.

GRIMES GOLDEN—Fruit above the medium; rich golden yellow; quality the best; a valuable early winter apple.

***IOWA BLUSH**—Tree very productive; fruit small, yellow with bright mottled red blush. November to January.

JANET—Medium in size; color pale red, distinct stripes on light yellow ground; slow growth; profuse bearer.

JONATHAN—A delicious and strictly dessert apple that always commands highest market prices; fruit good size; clear light yellow; almost covered with rich dark red on the sunny side.

MISSOURI PIPPIN—Large; handsome; and a fair quality; profitable orchard fruit. December to March.

***NORTHWESTERN GREENING**—Tree a splendid vigorous grower and quite hardy; fruit large; green; flesh yellow, fine grained and firm; very prolific. December to March.

"I received the trees yesterday in good condition and just the varieties I ordered. I am sending money order herewith."

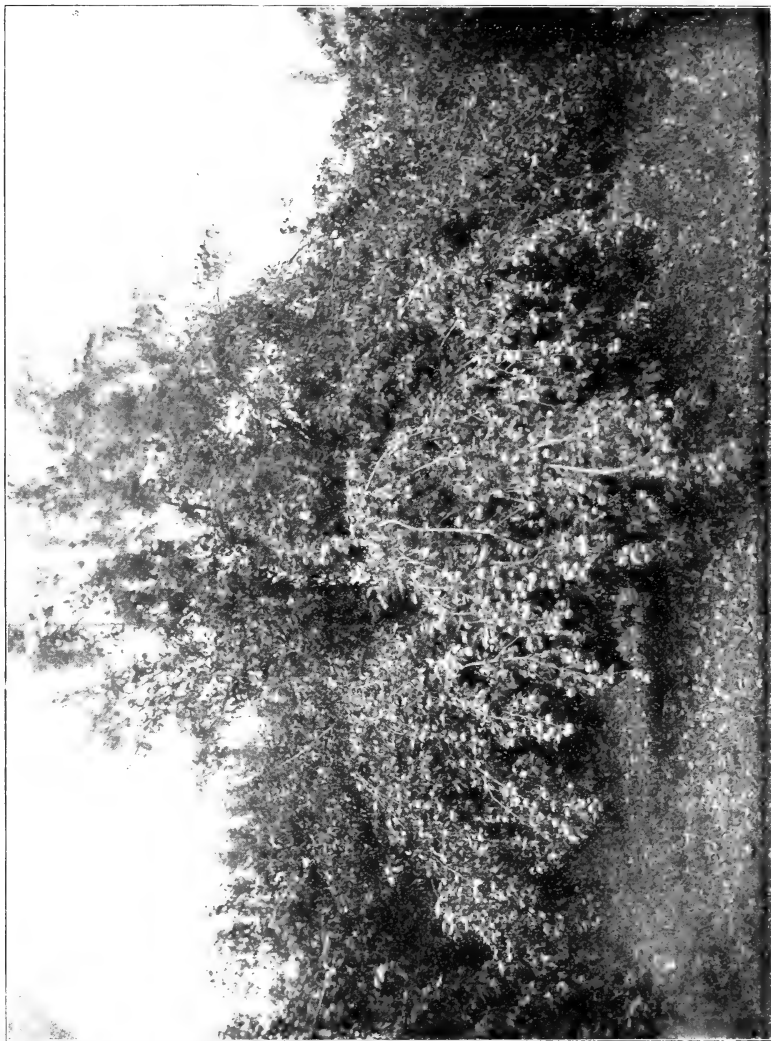
Richland County.

JOHN MACA.

OUR COUPONS SAVE TEN PER CENT.

APPLE TREES—Continued

***PATTEN'S GREENING**—Fruit large; green with a blush of red or brown; fruit is smooth and attractive and keeps well.



BEN DAVIS APPLE TREE.
Planted Spring 1873, with a gradually increasing yield, we were enabled in 1909 to gather 39 bushels of apples from this single tree which sold for more than \$25.00.

***WEALTHY**—Almost too well known to need description; very hardy and a free grower; fine quality; very productive. October.

WINESAP—One of the leading commercial varieties; deep red; good keeper.

Varieties starred are for Northern and far Western planting.

FREQUENT SHALLOW CULTIVATION RETAINS MOISTURE.

APPLE TREES—Continued**TREES THAT WILL PLEASE.**

Do you confuse our stock with less carefully propagated trees such as are often sold at seemingly low price. Every tree is of such constitution, health and quality as will speak for itself on arrival, and bear fruit in years to come.

VALUES.

Extra select grade, five to six feet, each and every one a fine tree that will not fail to please, **30c each; \$3.50 per dozen.**

Four to five feet, **\$3.00 per dozen.**

Lighter trees, three to four feet, **\$15.00 per 100.**

CRAB APPLES—Extra Select Stock

No trees are hardier, more durable, or more productive than crab apples. They serve a wide variety of uses in the making of preserves and jellies, and for canning purposes.

At Mitchell, within twenty miles of the Wyoming line, Ed Scriven marketed \$8.00 worth of Whitney No. 20 crabs from a single tree in spite of the ice storm of April 29th of that year.

WHITNEY No. 20—Large, more like a medium sized fine flavored apple. Good to eat as well as for canning and preserving. Yellowish green, red striped. A great bearer and very hardy. August.

One of our customers, Norris Stearly, Buffalo County, picked 19 bushels of Whitneys from one tree in one season.

FLORENCE—Hardy; productive; beautiful color. We can supply other varieties also.

Extra select grade, 5 to 6 feet.	Our best.	30c each.	\$3.50 per dozen.
4 to 5 feet.		25c each.	\$2.50 per dozen.

CHERRIES—Extra Select Stock

Cherries are especially adapted to Nebraska. They come into bearing quickly, yield abundantly, succeed universally, and are so easily grown that no one need be without this, the most popular of fruits.

HARDY ROOTS.

Our trees are all budded on Mahaleb stock which makes an exceptionally desirable root and does not sprout.

Our Extra Select trees commence bearing in two years.

One of our orchards yielded \$4.00 from single trees the sixth season after planting. At the age of eleven years single trees gave us three and one-half bushels and eighteen years 100 quarts. We have raised single crops of 400, 500 and 700 bushels each.

We have planted more than 3,000 cherry trees in partnership commercial orchards extending from eastern Nebraska up to near the Wyoming line, and have successfully grown some of the most productive orchards in the state.

Doubtless such of our customers as reside in town will prefer to plant the extra heavy two-year-old cherry. They are the strongest and best rooted lot of two-year cherry trees we have seen in many years; straight, smooth, of the very best quality, and notwithstanding their extra vigor and quality we are prepared to furnish them at the very low price of **\$5.00 per dozen.** We do not

"Last spring I ordered of you nursery stock amounting to \$20.00. The goods were received in first-class shape and every one of the trees are growing. I am so well pleased that next spring I expect to give you another order and will recommend you to all my friends."

Dawes County, Neb.

ERNEST M. SLATTERY.

THE GREATEST CARE TO PACK TRUE TO LABEL.

CHERRIES—Continued

advise the planting of the English Morello in southeastern Nebraska, but west of North Platte, under their arid conditions, the English Morello will be found quite healthy, a late bloomer and very productive.

EARLY RICHMOND—The well known early red cherry. Ripens first. Very productive.

MONTMORENCY—Ripens next. Not so productive as Early Richmond, but larger size and finer quality.

ENGLISH MORELLO—Late, black, last to ripen. Rich for canning. Subject to shot hole fungus east of North Platte.

Stick to these well tried, thoroughly proven varieties. Let others experiment.

Sweet varieties and Dukes will not succeed in Nebraska.

Extra heavy two-year, choice trees, 50c each; \$5.00 per dozen; 4 to 5 feet, 35c each; \$4.00 per dozen.

A lighter grade, one-year, and also light two-year trees, 30c each; \$3.00 per dozen; \$20.00 per hundred.

PLUMS—Extra Select Stock

The cultivation of plums is rapidly increasing. A family supply of this juicy fruit can be grown on a small space since they succeed best in a group or cluster where they can pollinize one another.

We have found it advantageous to mix several varieties so as to secure a continual supply of pollen during the blooming season.

TRIMMING.

The plum tree in Nebraska is vigorous in growth and requires cutting back each spring to prevent an overweight of fruit at the ends of long branches. Trimming back produces a stockier tree and prevents splitting.

FOREST GARDEN—Medium size; bears young and profusely. Hardy and very desirable.

HAWKEYE—Very large, dark red, hardy and productive.

WOLF—Large, dark red, fine for cooking and canning because free stone. Vigorous grower. Very hardy.

WYANT—Purplish red. Large Iowa origin. Excellent quality, hardy and very productive.

First class trees, 5 to 6 feet, 50c each; \$5.00 per dozen.

Medium trees, 4 to 5 feet, 40c each; \$4.50 per dozen.

In less supply, trees 3 to 4 feet, 25c each; \$3.00 per dozen.

PEACHES—Extra Select Stock

To secure healthy, vigorous and fruitful trees and fine fruit, the following points must be well attended to: First—Keep the ground clean and mellow. Second—Keep the heads low—the trunks should not exceed three feet in height. Third—Give them an occasional dressing with wood ashes. Fourth—Prune every spring, shortening the shoots of the previous year's growth; this keeps the head round, full and well furnished with bearing wood. Cut weak shoots back about one-half, and strong ones one-third; but see that there is left a sufficient supply of fruit buds. Sickly and superfluous shoots should be cut out clean. The fruit is borne on wood of last year's growth and hence the necessity of keeping up a good supply of vigorous annual shoots all over the tree. Salt is an excellent fertilizer for peach trees; soap suds is also



FIVE YEAR CHERRY ORCHARD—CRETE NURSERIES.

OUR COUPONS SAVE TEN PER CENT.

PEACHES—Continued

good. Young trees should be well mulched every spring, or kept well cultivated until about the middle of July each year. Would advise planting a good windbreak on south side of orchard.

VARIETIES.

ALEXANDER—Tree vigorous; productive; very early; hardy.

EARLY RIVERS—One of the best early. Season late July.

GREENSBORO—Second early. Free-stone. Very productive; hardy. Early August.



PLATE OF PEACHES.

I have planted twenty-five thousand peach trees in our commercial orchards. We send out healthy trees and hardiest varieties.

CHAMPION—Large; creamy white, with red cheek; free-stone. Late August.

ELBERTA—Large; widely planted for commercial use. Season early September.

Extra select trees, 5 to 6 feet, 25c each; \$3.00 per dozen.

4 to 5 feet, 20c each; \$2.25 per dozen.

3 to 4 feet, 16c each; \$1.75 per dozen.

GRAPES—Extra Select Stock

The grape is one of the quickest and surest of small fruits. It can be planted anywhere, and hillsides, unsuited to other crops, make good vineyards. Enriching the soil with manure or any other fertilizer produces the finest fruit.

PRUNING AND COVERING.

No other fruit requires so severe pruning as the grape. Cut off three-quarters of the new wood each fall, leaving but five or six buds on each new lateral. During November cover the vines with earth, or straw and earth, as a winter protection.

AN ABUNDANCE OF ROOTS.

The vines we offer are not light stock such as could be sent by mail. The tops are well developed, with strong, healthy buds. The roots are long and heavy. Vines so equipped sometimes fruit the first season.

In the dry season of 1904 we marketed from our successful and productive

FREQUENT SHALLOW CULTIVATION RETAINS MOISTURE.

GRAPES—Continued

vineyards, forty-five hundred and fifty baskets; a yield which amounted to about \$136 per acre. Have never had a complete failure in twenty-one years.

MOORE'S EARLY—The earliest black grape. Large, with delicious flavor.

WORDEN—Black; ripens after Moore's Early. A fine flavored seedling of, and improvement upon the Concord.



Note our perfect cultivation. We have not had a complete grape failure for twenty-one years.

CONCORD—Black; ripens after Worden. Most popular, most productive of all.

EMPIRE STATE, NIAGARA, ELVIRA, ripening in the order named are the hardiest white varieties.

Grapevines are graded into five grades, from Extra Select two-year to second-class one-year. Below these grades the culls are sometimes offered at \$2.00 per 100. We offer nothing but Extra Select, the highest of the five grades.

Extra Select grade, two-year Concord, 75c per dozen.

All other varieties, Extra Select two-year grade, \$1.25 per dozen.

PEARS—Extra Select Stock

Pears, like peaches, have a tendency to put on too much wood, and should be planted in the poorest soil and most exposed situations. Do not apply manure or other fertilizer, but use an abundance of coal ashes. A wagon load to each four trees is not too much.

If pear trees are intelligently handled, fruit can be grown almost every season. We have not failed in growing pears for many years. We find that to keep them from blighting, they must be grown under such conditions as will

"I wish to thank you for shrubs sent with my order. All are growing and I hope in due season to gather flowers from them."
Buffalo County.

EDWARD CRONAU.

THE GREATEST CARE TO PACK TRUE TO LABEL.

PEARS—Continued

give them a slow, well ripened growth. That means that after the first two or three years, they should not be cultivated, or but very slightly. Our bearing pear trees have not been cultivated for many years. This compels them to make slow growth, to mature their wood in autumn and guards against that rank growth which invites blight.

The following varieties will be found quite reliable:

FLEMISH BEAUTY—Large, juicy, rich. September.

SECKLE—Yellowish brown; fine grained; fruit small, but fine quality. September.

ANJOU—Large; rich flavor. October to January.

KIEFFER—Vigorous grower. Should be pollenized by other varieties. Large; best for cooking. October.

First class trees, 5 to 6 feet, 40c each; \$4.50 per dozen.

4 to 5 feet, 35c each; \$4.00 per dozen.



STEPHENS' ORCHARD FARM.

The above is a photograph of the avenue between the west eighty and the east quarter section and was planted about thirty-five years ago. It is a favorite drive for automobiles, buggies and town people in the summer.

"The trees invoiced by you April 4, have come to hand by express. They seem to be in very good condition. Your promptitude in filling order and making shipment is appreciated. Check to cover is enclosed. Kindly sign accompanying voucher in duplicate, and return to this office."

Bell Ranch, New Mexico.

C. M. O'DONEL.

"Stock arrived in good shape. Set them out next morning. We are proud of them and grateful to you."

Custer County.

W. E. MATTHEWS.

STOCK GUARANTEED TO REACH YOU IN PERFECT CONDITION.



WONDERFULLY THIRTY ORCHARD OF G. C. WHEELER, CHASE CO., NEB., 300 miles west of Omaha. Planted with Crete Nurseries' trees April, 1900. Note the scientific method of leaving the ground lower around the trees than in the center of the row to catch the moisture. Earth banked about the trunks for winter protection, but removed from the first two for photographic purposes.



STRAWBERRIES—Extra Select Stock

No small fruit gives such quick and satisfactory returns and with so little care as strawberries. They are the earliest fruit to ripen, and in ordinary seasons one may have rich, luscious fruit for three or four weeks.

Strawberries should always be planted in the spring. Fall planting is very unsatisfactory and unsafe. They should be planted very early in the spring, in fact almost as soon as the frost is out of the ground and the ground can be well worked. For this reason we ask our customers to send us their orders for strawberries very early and we will see that they are shipped at the proper time.

OLD OR UNFERTILIZED PLANTS.

Don't get plants from your neighbor's old bed. We urge this upon you, not because we have plants to sell, but for two very important reasons.

1—Strawberries are of two classes, staminate and pistillate. **Pistillate varieties must be fertilized to produce fruit.** The pistillate are most productive when rightly pollenized.

In nine cases out of ten your neighbor does not know which of his plants are staminate and which are pistillate. We have often seen plats of fine healthy plants taken from old beds destitute of fruit because of lack of pollenization.

2—Strawberry plants deteriorate after three years. The older the plants the smaller and more inferior the fruit. Your friend is really doing you no kindness in giving you plants from his old bed.

SIZE OF STRAWBERRY BED.

Many persons believe a hundred or two plants sufficient for a family supply, having little idea of how small a plat that number will plant. When one reflects that an acre holds 14,000 plants set one foot apart, three feet between rows; and that five hundred plants only fill one twenty-eighth part of an acre, it is apparent that at least 500 to 1,000 plants should be set to furnish an ample family supply. The cost is very slight.

In staminate varieties, Senator Dunlap is hardiest and most productive.

SENATOR DUNLAP—A well tested, wonderfully productive variety. One of the best for universal planting. Bright red, good size, excellent quality.

We prefer to plant staminate plants only, avoiding all trouble of pollenizing a pistillate variety. Just as well to plant the very best variety as to plant several of less merit. We therefore advise the Senator Dunlap only.

Many nurseries dig their strawberry plants in the fall and keep them in

"I am very much pleased with the trees received of you as well as plants; particularly fifty hardy roses ordered last year, all of which lived and bloomed splendidly the same season." Seward County. F. P. TIPTON.

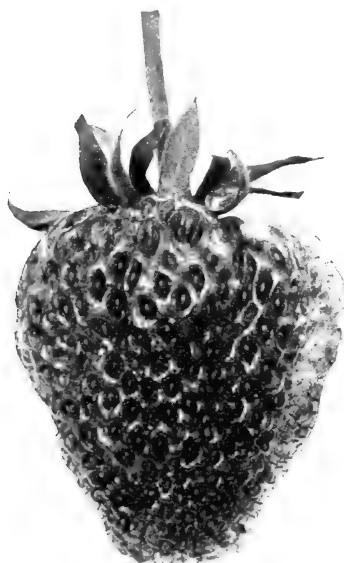
FREQUENT SHALLOW CULTIVATION RETAINS MOISTURE.

STRAWBERRIES—Continued

the cellar over winter. The result is that the plants are dry and almost lifeless in the spring. Our beds are situated near our packing sheds and fresh dug plants are easily obtained. We guarantee these plants to reach you in perfect condition, as we ship them immediately upon digging them.

Strawberry plants should be shipped by express separate from freight orders.

Fine, thrifty young plants; our very best, \$1.00 per 100; \$3.00 per 500; \$5.00 per 1,000. We prepay express.



Senator Dunlap.

"The trees and Osage plants were promptly delivered at our door one week ago. The trees did not stop growing. We were pleased with all the stock received."

Cass County.

MRS. J. A. PHEBUS.

"The order was filled with accuracy and in good shape. Thank you for selection of stock."

Clay County.

LULU A. BELL.

State Experiment Station, North Platte, Neb., May 5, 1908.

All the stock sent us came through in fine condition. We took pains to plant it, and I am sure we will get good results. The more I see of other stock the more highly I think of the stock from the Crete Nurseries.

W. P. SNYDER, Supt. Experimental Station.

"Nursery stock has arrived in fine condition. Am surprised at the thriftiness of the stock sent me. Please accept my sincere thanks."

Omaha, 4-30, 1908.

J. L. ALVISON.

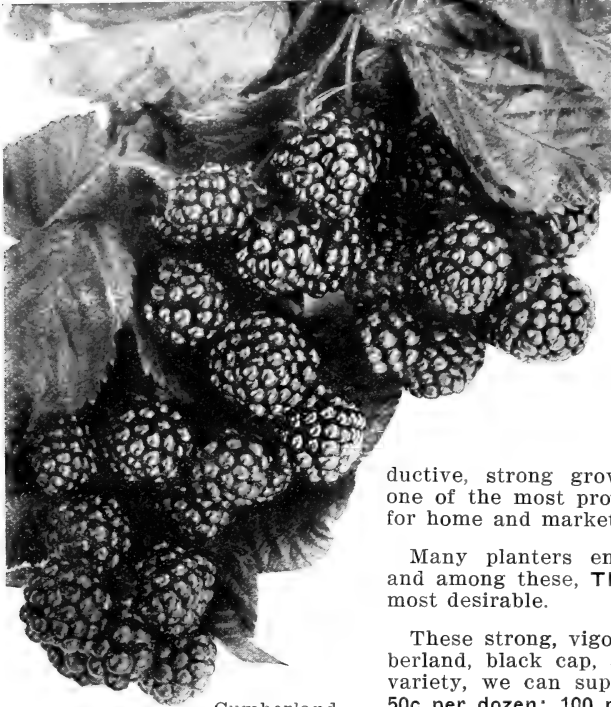
Cultivated 12 to 20 Times With Disc Harrow and Acme Pulverizer.

THE GREATEST CARE TO PACK TRUE TO LABEL.

RASPBERRIES—Extra Select Stock

The raspberry tips we send out are strong, vigorous and healthy. In planting these tips the one essential is to follow our directions closely. Pulverize the soil thoroughly. Cover the roots with not more than two inches of this fine soil. If you plant deeper the chances are that the new shoots

will never have the strength to push through the soil. If it rains before the new shoots are through the ground see to it that a hard crust is not allowed to form. By closely following these directions you will find that the raspberry can be grown almost as easily as any other fruit.



Cumberland

CUMBERLAND—Black cap, largest raspberry known. fruit frequently $\frac{7}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter. The plant is vigorous and pro-

ductive, strong grower, reasonably hardy, one of the most profitable black caps both for home and market use.

Many planters enjoy the red varieties, and among these, **THE KING** is one of the most desirable.

These strong, vigorous tips, both of Cumberland, black cap, and The King, the red variety, we can supply at the low rate of 50c per dozen; 100 plants for \$3.00.

BLACKBERRIES—Extra Select Stock

The secret of raising blackberries successfully is the straw mulch. Cultivate the plants the first summer. In the fall surround them with a straw mulch 12 inches deep. Let this remain on the ground and add to it every winter as it settles.

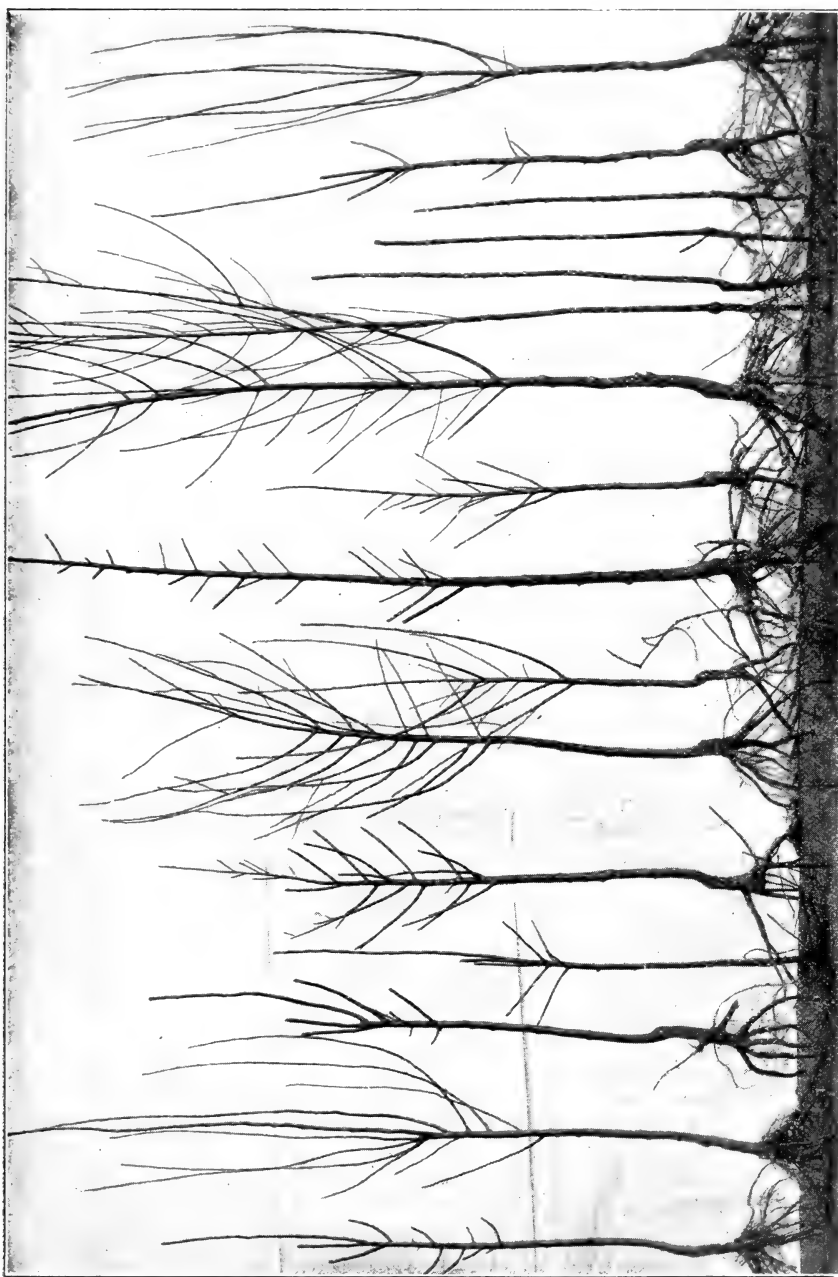
During the summer this mulch holds the moisture, keeping the ground underneath moist and cool. It also prevents the growth of weeds. In the winter it protects the plants.

Many of our customers are raising an abundance of blackberries by this method where previously they failed. Our own plantation handled in this manner is yielding at the rate of 100 bushels per acre.

SNYDER—The best known and most universally planted blackberry of all. Exceedingly productive and very hardy. Extra Select plants, 75c per dozen; \$4.00 per 100.

MERSEREAU—A fine, new, mid-season berry, valuable here. If the customer resides in southeastern Nebraska, desirable; not hardy in the west half of the state. Extra Select plants, \$1.00 per dozen.

STOCK GUARANTEED TO REACH YOU IN PERFECT CONDITION.

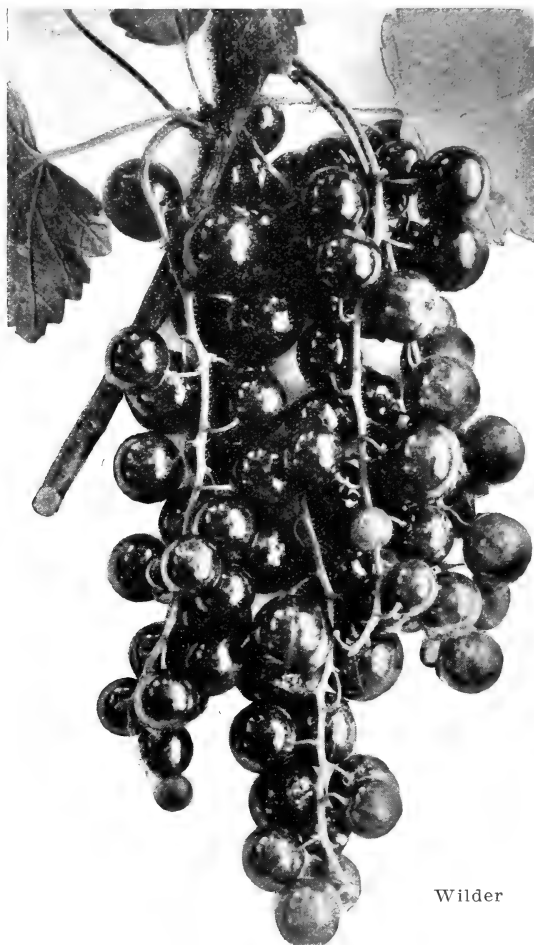


TREES MUST BE TRIMMED WHEN PLANTED.

The proper way. From left to right of photo. Whitney crab trimmed. Extra Select Ironclad apple not trimmed. The same trimmed. Select Grade apple trimmed. Extra Select cherry trimmed. The same not trimmed. Extra Select yearling cherry not trimmed. Peach, 6 to 7 feet, trimmed. Extra Select yearling cherry trimmed. Peach, 6 to 7 feet, and 5 to 6 feet, not trimmed. Three peaches trimmed. Extra Select plums, trimmed and untrimmed.

CURRANTS—Extra Select Bushes

The currant is one of the most valued of the small fruits. Being very hardy they do not winter kill and are easy of cultivation, requiring little care. They can be grown in any good garden soil.



Wilder

POMONA—A late, red currant of good quality. Especially esteemed by western growers.

WILDER—A fine new currant. Bunches and berries of large size. Bright red color. Splendid quality.

RED DUTCH—The old well known, standard red variety.

Our currants are not slips or cuttings that could be sent by mail, but are fine heavy two-year old bushes that commence bearing the second year.

Pomona and Wilder, \$1.00 per dozen. Red Dutch, 75c per dozen.

"The nursery stock arrived in good condition and is excellent. One could scarcely wish for better." Buffalo County. LAWRENCE BROWN.

FREQUENT SHALLOW CULTIVATION RETAINS MOISTURE.

GOOSEBERRIES—Extra Select Bushes

As in the case with currants, our gooseberries are heavy, well rooted, two-year-old bushes, that commence bearing the second year.

HOUGHTON—The well known red gooseberry, productive and of good quality.

DOWNING—Berry very large; and of light green color. A handsome, productive bush. Berries hang thick in close rows underneath.

Extra Select grade. Fine heavy bushes. Houghton, \$2.00 per dozen; Downing, \$2.50 per dozen.

ASPARAGUS

This delicious and healthy vegetable should be found in every garden. Nothing can be more easily grown and no plant gives such a healthful food for so little outlay. Set with the crown of the plant about three inches below the surface of the ground.

Strong two-year plants of mammoth varieties \$1.50 per 100.

It requires about 100 plants for a family supply.



Mammoth

RHUBARB (or Pie Plant)

This very desirable vegetable comes early in the spring. The large stems of the leaves are used for pie making and stewing. Set the plants so that the crowns are about one inch below the surface. Top dress in the fall with stable manure and fork under in the spring.

Strong two-year-old plants, \$1.00 per dozen.

"Two years ago I purchased 100 grapevines of you. You sent me 108; 107 grew. Some vines had five bunches of grapes the same season of planting. I wish to purchase more trees and vines from you the coming spring."

Harlan County.

JOHN B. YARNELL.

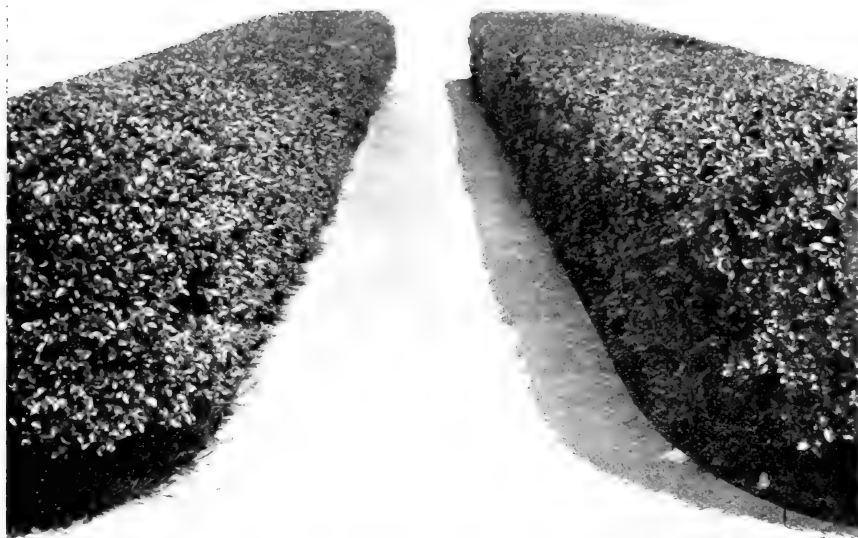
THE GREATEST CARE TO PACK TRUE TO LABEL.



Linden Tree Near Our Office. The Linden Makes a Beautiful Ornamental Tree.

STOCK GUARANTEED TO REACH YOU IN PERFECT CONDITION.

Ornamental Department



COMBE
ST. JOSEPH, MO.

ORNAMENTAL TREES

People are beginning to realize that by expending a little time and study they can have well kept and attractive grounds, adding to the beauty and comfort of the home and increasing the value of the property. We carry a very strong line of ornamental trees and shrubbery. The quality of the stock we carry and our care in handling and packing has given us almost the entire ornamental work of the Burlington Railroad for the last twenty years. Our trees have been carefully trained in the nursery; are straight, smooth and evenly branched. They are especially adapted to lawn and street planting.

AMERICAN WHITE ELM—The elm is undoubtedly the grandest of our native trees. Its hardihood, its fine spreading branches and above all, its durability, make it the most desirable of shade trees. The grand and venerable old elm under whose protecting shade Washington took command of the Continental Army is still standing in Cambridge. If you wish to plant a tree which shall not only be a source of pleasure to yourself but the future generation plant the elm.

ELM—Nine to ten feet, 50 cents; seven to eight feet, 35 cents; six to seven feet, 25 cents.

CAROLINA POPLAR—This is regarded as the fastest growing of all poplars. The future saw timber of western Nebraska. Useful as shade trees and in groves for windbreaks. Nine to ten feet, 30 cents; eight to nine feet 25 cents; seven to eight feet, 15 cents; five to seven feet, \$8.00 per hundred.

OUR COUPONS SAVE TEN PER CENT.

ORNAMENTAL TREES—Continued

COTTONWOOD—The Yellow Cottonwood of the Missouri River is hardier than the Poplars. Very symmetrical and rapid in growth, perfectly hardy in far western Nebraska, far superior to the western types of cottonwood. It has been tested in extreme western Nebraska and is being planted very freely in the west half of the state; 10 to 12 feet, **50 cents each**; 9 to 10 feet, **35 cents each**; 8 to 9 feet, **30 cents each**; 7 to 8 feet, **25 cents each**.

NORWAY MAPLE—Seven to eight feet, **50 cents**.

CATALPA SPECIOSA—Eight to nine feet, **35 cents**; seven to eight feet, **25 cents**.

SOFT MAPLE—Nine to ten feet, **35 cents**.

BOX ELDER—Seven to eight feet, **25 cents**; six to seven feet, **20 cents**; four to five feet, **15 cents**; two to three feet, **5 cents**.

LINDEN—A rapidly growing, beautiful tree, with rich green foliage and fragrant flowers. Symmetrical in growth. Very choice. Six to eight feet, **50 cents**; six to seven feet, **40 cents**.

FOREST TREES—Strong, Heavy Seedlings

ELM—Eighteen to twenty-four inches, **\$1.00 per hundred**.

RUSSIAN MULBERRY—Eighteen to twenty-four inches, **\$1.00 per hundred**. In eastern Nebraska, plant for shelter belts and to feed the birds. Not hardy west.

COTTONWOOD—Plant eighteen to twenty-four inches, **50 cents per hundred**; **\$4.00 per thousand**; two to three feet, 2-year, **\$1.00 per hundred**; **\$7.00 per thousand**; three to four feet, 2-year, **\$1.50 per hundred**.

HONEY LOCUST—Eighteen to twenty-four inches, **\$1.00 per hundred**; two to three feet, 2-year, **\$2.00 per hundred**.

BLACK LOCUST—We have a superior stock of black locust, plants well ripened, carefully wintered in earth, in the best of condition. Eighteen to twenty-four inches, **\$1.00 per hundred**; **\$6.00 per thousand**.

CATALPA SPECIOSA—We have planted some 2,000,000 of these trees on contracts. We annually gather seeds from trees of our own planting. We believe our strain of seed to be Speciosa, or hardy variety. The demand for this tree is rapidly increasing. The Union Pacific Railroad Company planted 100,000 of them last spring near North Platte. Plants twelve to eighteen inches, **\$1.00 per hundred**; **\$7.00 per thousand**.

RUSSIAN GOLDEN WILLOW—Very valuable for securing a quick, dense windbreak. One row of R. G. Willow will check wind and snow as effectively as three or four rows of ash. We quote them as follows: Plants two to three feet, **\$3.00 per hundred**.



ROSES—Heavy Two-Year Old Bushes

These are very different from the tiny roses sent out from greenhouses which require extreme care. Our roses are all grown in the field where they are cultivated like corn. In this manner they become thoroughly inured to outdoor culture.

We send them out as fine, heavy, well developed bushes, that often blossom freely the first summer.

SOIL PREPARATION—Spade to a depth of twenty inches an area large enough to contain the number of roses or shrubs desired. Mix in fine old manure thoroughly and make the whole very fine. After planting be sure to maintain a mulch of fine soil by frequent cultivation. Water abundantly, but underneath the surface. Otherwise the surface will soon bake.



Paul Neyron

WINTER CARE—The roses we offer will stand out over winter and do not require taking up. Protect the roots with ample mulching, using fine, old manure, leaves or hay. It is best to tie up even hardy roses before winter sets in. A little care will render them perfectly safe.

HYBRID PERPETUALS

ALFRED COLOMB—Brilliant carmine-crimson; very large, full and globular shaped; very fragrant and a superb rose.

ANNE DE DIESBACH—Beautiful shade of carmine; very large and fragrant; quite hardy and a good forcing rose.

ROSES—HYBRID PERPETUALS—Continued

BARON DE BONSTETTEN—Rich, velvety maroon, large and full; a splendid sort.

COQUETTE DES ALPS—White, tinged with carmine; very fine; a free bloomer.

KRAU KARL DRUSCHKI—Very large, perfect form and snow white; a vigorous grower and a free bloomer.

GENERAL JACQUEMINOT—One of the most popular of the red roses; brilliant crimson, large and very effective, very fragrant and one of the hardiest.

JOHN HOPPER—Bright rose with carmine center; large and full; very free bloomer and a standard rose.

MAGNA CHARTA—Extra large and full, bright rosy-pink; a profuse bloomer and very hardy.

MME. CHARLES WOOD—Very bright rich cherry-red; early; profuse bloomer.

MARGARET DICKSON—Beautiful form, white with pale flesh center; petals very large; fragrant.

MARSHALL P. WILDER—Extra large, full deep red; a free bloomer and very handsome.

MRS. JOHN LAING—Soft pink, beautiful form, exceedingly fragrant and very free flowering.

PAUL NEYRON—Said to be the largest rose in cultivation; bright, clear pink; very fragrant, hardy, and a strong grower.

PRINCE CAMILLE DE ROHAN—Very dark, velvety crimson, almost black, large and full; a beautiful sort.

ULRICH BRUNNER—Rich crimson-scarlet, highly perfumed, vigorous and hardy; a very desirable sort.

CLIMBING ROSES

BALTIMORE BELLE—A rapid growing, dark leaved Prairie Rose; blooms in large clusters of pale blush and white flowers late in the season.

PRAIRIE QUEEN—A rapid climber; flowers are very large; a bright rosy-red, changing lighter as the flowers open; strong and vigorous.

RAMBLER ROSES

CRIMSON RAMBLER—The best known and most popular of all the climbing roses. A rapid grower, making sometimes 15 to 20 feet in a season; flowers are borne in clusters of 15 to 25 perfectly shaped blossoms of a rich glowing crimson; when in full bloom the vine appears to be a perfect mat of rich red flowers; perfectly hardy everywhere.

DOROTHY PERKINS—This is one of the new Rambler types; has the same strong habit of growth as the Crimson; flowers are borne in large clusters of 25 to 30 and are a beautiful shell pink; the individual flower is larger than the Crimson Rambler. A valuable acquisition to the climbing roses.

Prices: Large, heavy, two-year old bushes, ready to blossom, **35 cents each**.

Special Offer—Twelve roses, or roses and shrubs—your own assortment, for \$4.00, and beautiful Crimson Rambler free.

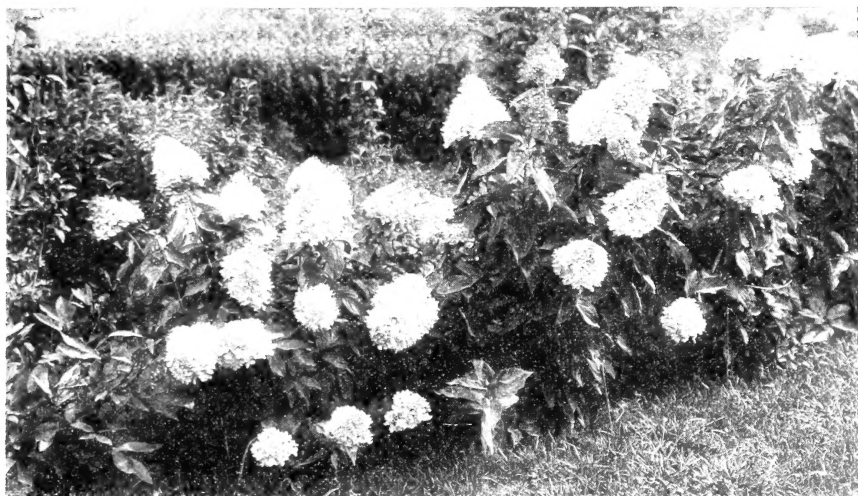
STOCK GUARANTEED TO REACH YOU IN PERFECT CONDITION.

ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS

SPIREA VAN HOUTII—Beautiful, hardy; will grow anywhere. Fine, large, heavy bushes, ready to blossom abundantly at once, four years old, **35 cents**. Strong two-year bushes, **25 cents**.

SCARLET HONEYSUCKLE—Very hardy, in bloom from June to November, **25 cents**.

HYDRANGEA—One of the best shrubs for late summer and autumn blooming. Hardy, **25 cents**. Four to five foot tree, **50 cents**.



Hydrangea.

PEONIES—Assorted. Very hardy and desirable, **25 cents each**; **\$3.00 per dozen**.

SNOWBALL—Very hardy and easily grown. Two to three feet, **25 cents**. Three to four feet, very strong and well rooted bushes, **50 cents**.

AMPELOPSIS QUINQUEFOLIA—Virginia Creeper, very hardy, **35 cents each**.

PURPLE LEAF BARBERRY—Foliage and berry of a reddish purple. Fine as single shrubs or particularly beautiful as an ornamental hedge. Very hardy. Two to three feet, for lawn planting, **30 cents each**.

Purple Leaf Barberry for hedging, twelve to eighteen inches, **\$10 per 100**.

"Out of about 100 fruit trees sent last spring only two failed to grow. The rest seem hardy and strong."

C. J. OSBORN,
Colorado.

"I received trees today and they are the finest I have received in the last 20 years. They are well worth the price."

S. HUNZIKER.

OUR COUPONS SAVE TEN PER CENT.

ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS—Continued

LILAC—Purple. Two to three feet, 25 cents each. Red, two to three feet, 25 cents each.

BERBERIS THUNBERGII—Best ornamental hedge, twelve to eighteen inches. Transplanted. Stocky, \$10 per 100.

Those who desire an ornamental hedge of privet should use *Ligustrum Ibota*, much hardier than either California privet or the Privet *Amurinsis*. We have these in fine plants. The privet carries beautiful foliage and will be found very attractive for those who desire an ornamental border or dense hedge.

LIGSTRUM IBOTA—Eighteen to twenty-four inches, \$8.00 per hundred.

LIGSTRUM OVALIFOLIUM—Commonly known as California privet. Strong plants eighteen to twenty-four inches (not hardy in western Nebraska), \$6.00 per hundred.

CORNUS SIBERICA—Red Dogwood, 35 cents.

This shrub carries a brilliant, carmine color, very attractive in winter.

CLEMATIS—Jackmanii, purple, 50 cents.

Clematis, Ramona, lavender, 50 cents.

Clematis, *Paniculata*, 35 cents.

Clematis *Paniculata* blooms profusely late in the season and is useful for covering porches or summer houses.

EVERGREENS

The roots of the evergreens contain resinous sap. This on exposure to the sun, air or wind hardens and does not again liquify. That an evergreen should be fresh and bright in the top is not always sufficient. The roots should have been handled with such care as to retain all of their original strength and vigor. The roots of an evergreen requires a great deal more care than the roots of deciduous trees. We suggest therefore that in handling evergreens of the size of two feet and upward it would be far better to purchase those which we describe as "balled in earth."

In digging these the workmen take the burlap to the nursery row. The trees are dug up with a quantity of earth on the roots, and this earth is sewed up in burlap. The roots of the trees are thus protected from exposure to the air and such trees may be transplanted with confidence.

The small sizes can be packed in boxes in earth, or heavily packed in moss with safety.

BLACK HILL SPRUCE—Twelve to fifteen inches, 35 cents each; \$4.00 per dozen.

WHITE PINE—Eighteen to twenty-four inches, 40 cents each; \$5.00 per dozen.

SCOTCH PINE—Eighteen to twenty-four inches, \$4.00 per dozen; two to three feet, \$6.00 per dozen.

ARBOR VITAE—Cedar, twenty-four to thirty inches, 40 cents each.

NORWAY SPRUCE—Twelve to eighteen inches, \$2.00 per dozen; eighteen to twenty-four inches, \$3.00 per dozen.

CORRESPOND EARLY

before the big rush of delivery. Remember that it is difficult to answer correspondence as fully as might be desired while packing thousands of orders in the few short weeks of the spring. We invite anyone who may receive this catalog to feel perfectly free at all times to write us for information upon such horticultural subjects as they may be interested in.

We may not be able to answer all questions to your entire satisfaction, but you are freely welcome to such knowledge as we possess.

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO

**J. A. LOTHROP, General Manager, The Crete Nurseries
CRETE, NEBRASKA**

FREQUENT SHALLOW CULTIVATION RETAINS MOISTURE.

THE PLANTER SHOULD STUDY

First: How to handle the soil. He should read Campbell's Scientific Farmer, published at Lincoln. This journal gives more attention to the problems connected with the cultivation of the soil, suitable tillage and the storing of moisture than perhaps any other one journal. Please notice our arrangement with this journal, by which if you send us an order for \$10.00 worth of trees or plants and remit therefor, we will subscribe for this journal for one year for you. This journal is published monthly.

Note also that customers who send us an order for \$10.00 worth of nursery stock, accompanied by cash, can elect to have us subscribe for them for the Twentieth Century Farmer, published at Omaha, an excellent journal published fifty-two times a year.

Our Bohemian friends should read the Hospodor, an attractive and interesting journal published at Omaha. This journal is very ably edited, very enterprising in all departments and in addition to giving a discussion to all forms of agricultural effort aims to carry a strong horticultural department.

Notice our optional coupon offers enclosed herewith.

HOW TO PLANT

PREPARATION OF THE GROUND

Since we are all very busy it is well to do as much team work as possible in preparing the ground for planting. After having thoroughly plowed the ground and done all that can be done in plowing, pulverizing and harrowing, hand labor can be saved by cross marking and then running the lister to the utmost depth possible to attain. Then plant the trees at the intersection of the cross marking.

Plant all fruit trees from four to six inches deeper than they grew in the nursery row. Plant without the use of water until the earth has been filled in three inches over the roots and thoroughly tramped. Leave a basin surrounding the tree. If the soil is not sufficiently moist add two pails of water to each tree. After this water has soaked away then finish filling the hole, leaving the surface loose. Never tramp the wet soil.

Cultivation gives the best mulch of all. If you can give frequent culture you will have the best possible mulch. If circumstances are such that you cannot or likely will not do this, then mulch with stable litter or any material that will prevent the loss of moisture.

TREATMENT OF TREES WHEN RECEIVED

The bundles should be opened immediately and the roots dipped in water. It is helpful to bury tree root, body and branch in moist earth. In this way trees recover some of the sap lost in digging and transporting. At the very least the roots and the trunks of the trees should be buried in moist earth for a couple of days, shading the tops with wet straw. When planting take up only a few at a time.

TRIMMING

See cut of trees untrimmed and trimmed.

I wish we knew how to emphasize this point so it would ring in the ears of every intending planter. **TREES MUST BE TRIMMED WHEN PLANTED.**

It is of the utmost importance that each kind of tree is trimmed in accordance with its needs. With apple trees shortened back three-fourths of the growth of the side branches, leave a dominant center so that the next set of branches will be at least a foot above the present set of branches.

Cherry trees should be shortened as to the side branches to three to five strong buds. Peach trees should have the branches shortened to one bud at the base of the branch and the trunk of the peach tree, no matter if five or six feet in height, should be shortened to thirty inches.

PACKING

The prices annexed include packing and delivering to our express or freight office free of charge. All stock will be carefully packed in boxes or bales, save large lots packed in bulk. We guarantee all stock to be packed to reach customer in good order.



Showing thrifty apple tree, yielding over two barrels of apples at the age of six years. This particular orchard, containing 320 acres, is under the personal supervision of our Mr. E. F. Stephens. Cultivated twenty-two times this past season. Thoroughly sprayed and pruned annually.